

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~The present invention provides a~~ A method of monitoring calibration of a spectrophotometric apparatus that ~~comprises~~ includes one or more than one calibration ~~algorithm~~ algorithms for one or more than one analyte ~~analytes~~, involves ~~This method comprises~~ measuring absorbance of a quality control material with the apparatus to obtain a measurement, calculating one or more than one value from the measurement using the one or more than one calibration algorithm, and comparing the one or more than one value with an assigned value given to the quality control material for each of the one or more than one analyte. ~~where the~~ The quality control material exhibits an absorbance spectrum ~~spectra~~ characterized as having a negative slope for a continuous spectral segment from about 5 nm to about 200 nm in length, and ~~where the spectral segment includes a principal calibration wavelength for the one or more~~ than one analyte ~~analytes. The method then involves calculating one or more concentration values from the measurement using the one or more calibration algorithms, followed by comparing the one or more concentration values with an assigned value given to the quality control material for each of the one or more analytes, and determining if there is a violation of a pre-established quality control rule. In this way one or more calibration algorithms of the apparatus may be monitored. A reagentless method for determining the concentration of one or more~~ than one analyte ~~analytes in a sample in a spectrophotometric apparatus comprising~~ having at least one primary calibration algorithm is also disclosed. ~~The present invention also~~ Also provided is ~~provides to a~~

method for selecting one or more than one substance substances as a quality control material for monitoring ~~at least one~~ one or more than one primary calibration algorithm on a spectrophotometric apparatus. ~~The present invention includes~~ Also described is a quality control material for ~~mimicking~~ monitoring the calibration algorithms for two or more than two analytes ~~comprising,~~ including one or more than one substance substances having a combined absorption spectrum exhibiting a negative slope for a continuous spectral segment from about 5 nm to 200 nm in length, in a portion of an absorption spectrum, ~~including one or more principal calibration wavelengths, for the~~ two or more analytes.